



ABINGTON

Plymouth County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Abington is a small bedroom community of 13,000 people some 12 miles south of Boston. The town was famous as part of the shoe industry and, as recently as 1986, had a working dairy farm. Today, though the town's roots in manufacturing and agriculture have given way to a primarily residential community character, several small and medium size businesses flourish within the boundaries of the quiet town.

The town was founded in 1712 and although it has experienced substantial growth over the last several decades, the community retains a great deal of open space and a rural feeling. Residents are proud of the parks and recreation facilities which have produced several fine athletes. In addition, the growth of the town has not diminished the local spirit. There are several active civic organizations; annual celebrations include everything from an enthusiastic St. Patrick's Day parade to a huge 4th of July celebration attracting thousands from the South Shore.

Abington enjoys a fine school system and full time fire and police departments. Town facilities also include a water department, sewer department, public library and municipal golf course.

The future of Abington remains bright as development continues. Residents believe that future growth is certain to be spurred on when the Old Colony Railroad, which will connect the town to Boston by rail, is reactivated. In addition, the town will have its own commuter rail station. Abington keeps an eye on the potential for development that lies on the horizon. At the same time, the town keeps its feet planted firmly on the ground in a desire to maintain the high quality of life that makes Abington a special place to live.

(Seal and narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Weymouth on the north, Rockland on the east, Whitman on the south, and Brockton and Holbrook on the west and northwest. Abington is 4 miles east of Brockton, 19 miles south of Boston, and 21 miles northeast of Plymouth.

Total Area: 10.17 sq. miles

Land Area: 9.95 sq. miles

Population: 13,817

Density: 1,389 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Brockton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....26.9°F
Normal temperature in July.....71.2°F
Normal annual precipitation.....45.5"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Whitman, Weymouth, Blue Hills, Brockton

Regional Planning Agency

Old Colony

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Brockton

Department of Housing and Community Development
Mitt Romney, Governor - Jane Wallis Gumble, Director



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 982-2100

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen
Executive Secretary
Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1712

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

NOTE: This information is not currently available on the web.

Total Registered 8,046

Democrats 2,720 33.8 %

Republicans 985 12.2 %

Other parties 10.0 %

Unenrolled Voters 4,340 53.9 %

Legislators:

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Abington town, Plymouth County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	14,605	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	14,605	100.0
Male.....	7,131	48.8	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	103	0.7
Female.....	7,474	51.2	Mexican.....	13	0.1
Under 5 years.....	1,012	6.9	Puerto Rican.....	44	0.3
5 to 9 years.....	1,069	7.3	Cuban.....	8	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,080	7.4	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	38	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	925	6.3	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	14,502	99.3
20 to 24 years.....	743	5.1	White alone.....	14,163	97.0
25 to 34 years.....	2,041	14.0	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,575	17.6	Total population.....	14,605	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	2,087	14.3	In households.....	14,414	98.7
55 to 59 years.....	764	5.2	Householder.....	5,263	36.0
60 to 64 years.....	540	3.7	Spouse.....	3,001	20.5
65 to 74 years.....	871	6.0	Child.....	4,927	33.7
75 to 84 years.....	658	4.5	Own child under 18 years.....	3,474	23.8
85 years and over.....	250	1.7	Other relatives.....	655	4.5
Median age (years).....	36.7	(X)	Under 18 years.....	220	1.5
18 years and over.....	10,867	74.4	Nonrelatives.....	568	3.9
Male.....	5,193	35.6	Unmarried partner.....	284	1.9
Female.....	5,674	38.8	In group quarters.....	191	1.3
21 years and over.....	10,399	71.1	Institutionalized population.....	182	1.2
62 years and over.....	2,077	14.2	Noninstitutionalized population.....	9	0.1
65 years and over.....	1,779	12.2	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	711	4.9	Total households.....	5,263	100.0
Female.....	1,068	7.3	Family households (families).....	3,746	71.2
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,829	34.8
One race.....	14,484	99.2	Married-couple family.....	3,001	57.0
White.....	14,237	97.5	With own children under 18 years.....	1,472	28.0
Black or African American.....	111	0.8	Female householder, no husband present.....	536	10.2
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	17	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	267	5.1
Asian.....	71	0.5	Nonfamily households.....	1,517	28.8
Asian Indian.....	15	0.1	Householder living alone.....	1,212	23.0
Chinese.....	9	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	485	9.2
Filipino.....	11	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,972	37.5
Japanese.....	8	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over ..	1,229	23.4
Korean.....	10	0.1	Average household size.....	2.74	(X)
Vietnamese.....	10	0.1	Average family size.....	3.29	(X)
Other Asian ¹	8	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	5,348	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	5,263	98.4
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	1	-	Vacant housing units.....	85	1.6
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	16	0.3
Some other race.....	47	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.2	(X)
Two or more races.....	121	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	1.9	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	5,263	100.0
White.....	14,346	98.2	Owner-occupied housing units.....	3,778	71.8
Black or African American.....	143	1.0	Renter-occupied housing units.....	1,485	28.2
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	45	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	3.05	(X)
Asian.....	102	0.7	Average household size of renter-occupied units ..	1.96	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	4	-			
Some other race.....	93	0.6			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

2000 Census Year Round Units:	5332
Total Development 2001:	262
Ch. 40B Units:	250
Percent Subsidized 2000 Base:	4.69%

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State	112
Conventional Federal	0

Rental Assistance (DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP)	0
Federal (Section 8)	86



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Abington is situated in the Greater Brockton area, which is strategically located between State Route 128 and Interstate 495, the inner and outer loops around Boston. State Routes 3, 24, and 28 provide easy access to the air, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 18, 123, and 139. Route 18 leads to State Route 3, the Southeast Expressway into Boston. Routes 123 and 139 link up to State Routes 24 and 28.

Rail

Commuter rail service to South Station, Boston, will be available in 1996-97 on the Plymouth Line. The Bay Colony Railroad provides freight rail service to Abington. Contact number: (781) 380-3556.

Bus

Abington is a member of the Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT), which provides Dial-A-Bat paratransit service for the elderly and disabled. Carey's Bus Lines, Inc., provides commuter service to Boston from Abington and North Abington.

Other

The Norwood Memorial Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility, is accessible from Abington. It has 2 asphalt runways 4,001'x 150' and 4,007'x 150'. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Dyer Memorial Library
Centre Avenue
(781) 878-8480

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Colony House Healthcare Nursing Home
Mildred Alford Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

PUBLIC SAFETY

[Executive office of Public Safety](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.